
The White House Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives

One of President Bush's first acts in office was to establish the White House Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives and Centers for the Initiative in five Federal agencies. The White House Office was tasked at its inception with leading a "determined attack on need" by strengthening and expanding the role of these groups in addressing the nation's social problems. The President envisions a "faith-friendly" public square where grassroots organizations can compete equally with other groups to provide government-funded services.

White House Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives

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JIM TOWEY

Jim Towey is Deputy Assistant to the President and Director of the White House Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives.

Mr. Towey has extensive governmental and nonprofit experience that cuts across traditional party lines. He served Republican Senator Mark Hatfield as Legislative Director and Legal Counsel and also served in the cabinet of Democratic Florida Governor Lawton Chiles.

In 1993, Chiles appointed Mr. Towey to run Florida's health and social services agency – the largest in the United States. While serving in that agency, Mr. Towey helped Florida set a record for the number of adoptions and also implemented welfare-to-work pilot projects that became the national model.

After leaving the public sector in 1996, Mr. Towey founded and ran Aging with Dignity, a national nonprofit organization that helps families plan for and discuss the care they want during times of serious illness.

Most significant in Mr. Towey's life, however, was his work with Mother Teresa of Calcutta. Mr. Towey met Mother Teresa in 1985, visiting her home for the dying – an event he describes as the "defining moment" in his life. Mr. Towey went on to serve as legal counsel to Mother Teresa for 12 years and in 1990 lived as a full-time volunteer in her home for people with AIDS in Washington, DC.

DAVID KUO

David Kuo presently serves as Special Assistant to the President and Deputy Director of the White House Office of Faith-Based & Community Initiatives.

Mr. Kuo has previously served in various capacities in the policy and political world. He was Policy Director for Senator John Ashcroft and Deputy Policy Director for Empower America – the grassroots public policy organization founded by Bill Bennett, Jack Kemp and Jeane Kirkpatrick. He also founded and launched The American Compass – a nonprofit organization dedicated to finding and funding the most effective and efficient social service organizations in America. In the for-profit world, he was Senior Vice President of Communications for Value America.

In addition to his policy work, he is the author or co-author of several books including, most recently, dot.bomb: My Days and Nights at an Internet Goliath. He has also written speeches for many of America's leading political and corporate figures including then-Governor George W. Bush, then-Senator John Ashcroft, and AOL's Steve Case.

A native of New York, he is an honors graduate of Tufts University.

REBECCA BEYNON

Rebecca Beynon presently serves as Special Assistant to the President for Administrative Reforms in the White House Office of Faith-Based & Community Initiatives.

Ms. Beynon is an attorney who has served in various capacities in the private and public sectors. After clerking for Judge A. Raymond Randolph (United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia) and Justice Sandra Day O'Connor (United States Supreme Court), she spent a few years in private practice. She worked as a senior legal advisor at the Federal Communications Commission and as Deputy General Counsel for the Office of Management and Budget.

A native of Austin, Texas, she holds undergraduate and law degrees from the University of Texas, and a graduate degree from the University of California, Berkeley.

JEREMY WHITE

Jeremy White serves as the Associate Director of Outreach for the White House Office of Faith-Based & Community Initiatives.

Mr. White has previously served in various capacities in policy and research in the faith-based arena. He was Program and Policy Analyst at Public/Private Ventures where he researched the extent and efficacy of faith-based programs nationwide under the guidance of John Dilulio. There he co-authored a study "Faith-Based Programs for At-Risk Youth in Washington, DC." He also researched metropolitan government in the Economic Studies Department of the Brookings Institution and contributed to the work *The Orphaned Capital*, a book focused on remedying the former financial woes of the District of Columbia's municipal government. Most recently he served as Coordinator of Youth Programs at the Unique Learning Center, a faith-based academic enrichment center in Washington, DC.

A native of Detroit, he is a graduate of Princeton University. At Princeton, he concentrated in urban policy at the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs and obtained a certificate in Spanish Language and Culture.

CARRIE CLICK

Carrie Click serves as Deputy Associate Director for Outreach at the White House Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives. She works as a liaison to the faith community and as an event planner.

Ms. Click previously researched the relationship between faith, family and community at the Heritage Foundation. In addition to policy work, Ms. Click was trained at the Protocol School of Washington as a business etiquette and international protocol consultant.

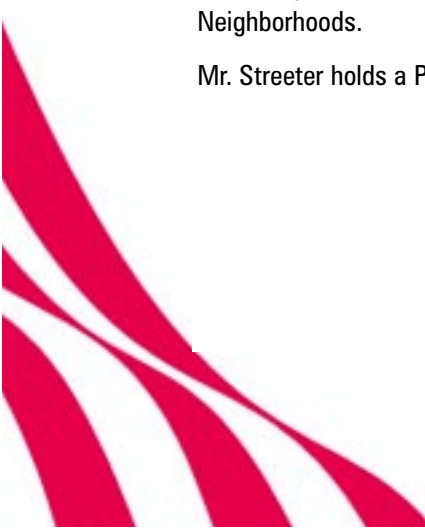
Ms. Click is an honors graduate from Pepperdine University with a double major in Spanish and humanities. She also received her Masters degree in religion and family policy from the Public Policy School of Pepperdine.

RYAN STREETER

Ryan Streeter is on a detail assignment from the Department of Housing and Urban Development to the White House Office where he is Associate Director for Information Resources in the White House Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives. At HUD, he is Resource Director of the Department's Center for Faith-Based and Community Initiatives. Mr. Streeter has also served as research fellow at Hudson Institute, where he was engaged in advising public and private leaders on the public importance of faith-based and community organizations and served as Special Assistant for Neighborhood Policy under former Indianapolis mayor Stephen Goldsmith.

He has authored *Transforming Charity: Toward a Results-Oriented Social Sector* and edited *Religion and the Public Square in the 21st Century*. With Don Eberly, Mr. Streeter is co-author of *The Soul of Civil Society: Voluntary Associations and the Cultivation of Moral Habits*. Along with numerous articles, he is author of a case study on citizenship in three Indianapolis neighborhoods, appended to Stephen Goldsmith's book, *Putting Faith in Neighborhoods*.

Mr. Streeter holds a Ph.D. from Emory University.



U.S. Department of Justice

Task Force for Faith-Based and Community Initiatives

What is the mission of the Department of Justice?

Under the leadership of Attorney General John Ashcroft, the Department enforces the laws of the United States.

How does the Department accomplish its mission?

The Department works to prevent, investigate, and prosecute crime and terrorism. As part of these activities, the Department funds a number of programs to bring relief to those who need it most, including youth without direction, ex-offenders who are re-entering society, children of prisoners, and victims of crime.

What role is there for faith-based and community organizations at the Department of Justice?

Faith-based organizations have a significant role to play in the Department's programs, particularly in the areas of juvenile delinquency, prisoners and their families, victims of crime, domestic violence, and drug-related issues.

Most of the programs of interest to faith-based and community organizations are administered through the Office of Justice Programs. OJP coordinates activity among five bureaus and six program offices within OJP.

In addition to Office of Justice Program bureaus and program offices, partnership opportunities exist within the Immigration and Naturalization Service, which administers the nation's immigration laws, and the Federal Bureau of Prisons, which is responsible for the custody and care of approximately 162,000 Federal offenders.

PATRICK PURTILL

Before becoming Director of the Department of Justice Task Force for Faith-Based and Community Initiatives, Patrick Purtill served as President & CEO of the National Council For Adoption (NCFA). Founded in 1980, NCFA leads the nation in promoting adoption as a positive option for children in need and women in crisis, domestically and internationally.

From 1998 to 2000, Mr. Purtill served as President and Executive Director of the Washington Scholarship Fund, which provides scholarships to low-income elementary and secondary school children in the District of Columbia to attend private, independent, and parochial schools.

Before joining the National Council For Adoption and the Washington Scholarship Fund, Mr. Purtill served as Legislative Assistant to Congressman E. Thomas Coleman during the 102nd Congress.

During his years in Washington, Mr. Purtill has provided commentary on child welfare issues for national broadcasts and newspapers, including ABC's World News Tonight, NBC's Today Show, CNN, MSNBC, and USA Today, in addition to many regional and local broadcasts and newspapers.

Mr. Purtill studied political philosophy at the University of Dallas where he received a Bachelor of Arts degree and a Master of Politics degree.

U.S. Department of Labor

Center for Faith-Based and Community Initiatives

What is the mission of the Department of Labor?

Under the leadership of Secretary Elaine Chao, the Department is committed to the welfare of the United State's job seekers, wage earners, and retirees.

How does the Department accomplish its mission?

The Department improves working conditions, advances opportunities for profitable employment, protects retirement and health care benefits, and helps employers find workers. The Department administers a variety of Federal labor laws, including those that guarantee workers' rights to safe and healthful working conditions, a minimum hourly wage and overtime pay, freedom from employment discrimination, and unemployment insurance.

What role is there for faith-based and community organizations at the Department of Labor?

By getting involved with the nation's "One-Stop" system, faith-based and community organizations can help connect people in their communities to their local employment networks and become part of these networks. Each State has established a number of "One-Stop Career Centers" in key areas. These One-Stop Career Centers put all employment and training services in one place, integrating programs such as unemployment insurance, State job services, public assistance, and training initiatives. One-Stop customers can find out about job vacancies, receive career counseling, and training in job search skills.

Local Workforce Investment Boards, which are appointed by mayors or other elected local officials, are responsible for ensuring a comprehensive, high quality One-Stop delivery service system in their workforce areas. These Boards, which include representatives from the business, education, and labor communities, and State workforce agencies distribute about eighty-five percent of Federal job training dollars. The Department is working to strengthen the connection between grassroots groups and the local Workforce Investment Boards.

The Department awarded \$17.5 million to 12 States and 29 organizations in July 2002. These funds are being used to provide technical assistance and improve the connection between grassroots faith-based and community organizations and the nation's One-Stop Career System.

BRENT ORRELL

Brent Orrell joined the U.S. Department of Labor as the Director of the Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives in August, 2001. Before joining DOL, he worked in both the United States Senate and the U.S. House of Representatives for 15 years.

Most recently he served as Legislative Director to Senator Sam Brownback, one of the Senate's leading advocates for faith-based and community initiatives. From 1998 to 2000, he was Administrative Assistant to Congressman Gil Gutknecht.

From 1996 to 1998, Mr. Orrell served as Legislative Director to Senator Dan Coats. He was the lead staff person overseeing the Project for American Renewal, an omnibus legislative package designed to highlight and support the work of religious and community organizations. He also oversaw the creation of REAL Life, a separate faith-based and community package more narrowly tailored to the economic, social, and educational problems of urban areas.

From 1989 to 1996, Mr. Orrell served as Deputy Legislative Director to Senator Sam Nunn where he handled health care, welfare, and other domestic policy issues.

U.S. Department of Education

Center for Faith-Based and Community Initiatives

What is the mission of the Department of Education?

Under the leadership of Secretary Rod Paige, the Department's mission is to ensure equal access to education and to promote educational excellence for all Americans.

How does the Department accomplish its mission?

The Department provides national leadership and partnerships to address critical issues in American education, and it delivers approximately \$13 billion per year to help schools meet the most pressing needs of their students. In addition, it conducts and monitors educational research and shares the latest findings and information with parents, teachers, school board members, policy makers, and the general public. It also helps families pay for college, prepares students for work in a changing economy, and ensures nondiscrimination by recipients of Federal education funds.

An important priority for the Department is the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, which President Bush signed into law in January 2002. This new law fundamentally changes the Federal government's role in elementary and secondary school education by requiring America's schools to be accountable for positive results in student achievement. The Act contains the President's four basic education reform principles: stronger accountability for results, increased flexibility and local control, expanded options for parents, and an emphasis on proven teaching methods.

What role is there for faith-based and community organizations at the Department of Education?

Faith-based and community organizations are eligible to apply directly to the Department of Education for a number of grants. Most of these grants are administered by the Office of Elementary and Secondary Education.

In addition, with the passage of the No Child Left Behind Act, the Department has placed a special emphasis on the important role that faith-based organizations and leaders play in America's communities. For instance, the new Act has provided substantial funding for "supplemental services," which are provided by outside organizations that tutor children in subjects in which they need extra help. Faith-based and community groups should review the Department's explanation of this program at www.nclb.gov to learn how to become a certified provider of these supplemental services.

JOHN PORTER

John Porter is the director of the Department of Education Center for Faith-Based and Community Initiatives. Mr. Porter is an attorney from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, with extensive experience working with faith-based and community organizations. He served on the board of an inner city faith-based school in Pittsburgh and advocated for a quality education for children of all backgrounds after witnessing first-hand the desperate plight of inner city kids who were not being well served by their school systems.

Prior to his appointment, Mr. Porter practiced law in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He earned a law degree from the University of Pittsburgh in 1987 and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from Indiana University of Pennsylvania in 1981.

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Center for Faith-Based and Community Initiatives

What is the mission of the Department of Health and Human Services?

Under the leadership of Secretary Tommy Thompson, the Department's mission is to protect the health of all Americans and to provide essential human services, especially for those who are least able to help themselves.

How does the Department accomplish its mission?

The largest grant-making agency in the Federal government, the Department of Health and Human Services operates some 300 programs and provides around 60,000 grants per year. These programs cover a wide spectrum of activities, including medical and social science research, preventing outbreak of infectious disease, assuring food and drug safety, Medicare and Medicaid, financial assistance for low-income families, Head Start, substance abuse treatment and prevention, and services for older Americans. The Department's budget in fiscal year 2002 is \$460 billion.

Many HHS programs are household words, like Medicare and Medicaid. Other programs are less well-known, but reach America's citizens on an important personal level. For instance, HHS is involved when a child is vaccinated against disease, when a poor family receives income assistance or medical care, or when an absent parent contributes money that is owed for child support.

What role is there for faith-based and community organizations at the Department of Health and Human Services?

Faith-based and community organizations have a history of providing a variety of services funded under HHS programs. These organizations are eligible to apply for most grants open to nonprofit organizations. Most of the opportunities of interest to grassroots organizations are administered by the Administration for Children and Families, the Administration on Aging, the Health Resources and Services Administration, and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.

HHS is also responsible for administering the Compassion Capital Fund programs, which are designed to assist faith-based and community organizations to do a better job of providing the social services. This year, under the Compassion Capital Fund demonstration program, around \$25 million will be made available to nearly two dozen intermediary organizations that will provide technical assistance and capacity-building support to faith-based and community organizations. Other Compassion Capital Funds will be used to establish a National Resource Center and to support research activities.

ROBERT POLITO

Robert J. Polito serves Secretary Tommy Thompson as the director of the Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives at the Department of Health and Human Services.

Mr. Polito is the Founder and past President of FaithWorks International in New York City. In the fall of 1999, Mr. Polito founded FaithWorks Milwaukee. Mr. Polito has also served as the former Executive Director of BMTC. Mr. Polito founded BMTC in January 1994, and led the design of the programs and administrative systems.

Mr. Polito has a 12-year management career. He has sat on several Boards of Directors and served as an advisor to the Mayor of New York on welfare and substance abuse issues. He holds a Bachelor's Degree in Health Education from Pennsylvania State University where he was recognized as a national champion collegiate athlete. While in college, he was also very active in Christian Athletes.

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

Center for Faith-Based and Community Initiatives

What is the mission of the Department of Housing and Urban Development?

Under the leadership of Secretary Mel Martinez, HUD aims to increase homeownership, support community development, and increase access to affordable housing free from discrimination.

How does the Department accomplish its mission?

HUD works to ensure decent and sanitary homes and living environments for all Americans. It strives to increase opportunities for homeownership, provides housing assistance for low-income Americans, helps the homeless, and provides affordable housing for the elderly, people with disabilities, and people living with AIDS. The Department also promotes economic development in thousands of communities across America, and it prevents housing discrimination through public education and enforcement of fair housing laws.

What role is there for faith-based and community organizations at the Department of Housing and Urban Development?

Faith-based and community organizations have a long history of partnership with HUD. They have been actively involved in constructing affordable housing for the elderly and disabled, providing shelter for the homeless, and promoting homeownership and community development. Faith-based and community organizations provide support and services to residents of public housing.

Many of the programs for which faith-based and community organizations are eligible are operated by the Office of Community Planning and Development (CPD). In addition, many faith-based and community organizations have sponsored the construction of Section 202 Housing for the Elderly, a program in HUD's Office of Housing. Faith-based and community organizations can also apply to programs run by HUD's Office of Public and Indian Housing.

STEVEN WAGNER

Steven Wagner is Director of the Department of Housing and Urban Development Center for Faith-Based and Community Initiatives.

Prior to HUD, Mr. Wagner was president of QEV Analytics, the public opinion research and communications strategy firm he founded in 1996. His practice specialized in international research, public opinion on policy issues, and American politics.

Prior to QEV, Mr. Wagner was chief of European and Latin American Research at the U.S. Information Agency. Prior to USIA, Mr. Wagner was political director of the National Republican Institute for International Affairs (now the IRI), where he managed democracy and community-building programs in Latin America, the Philippines and Portugal.

Mr. Wagner has been an adjunct professor in Regent University's Washington graduate program. He is a graduate of Lafayette College. Mr. Wagner serves on the Board of Capitol Hill Group Ministries, is chairman of the St. Joseph's Church social concerns committee and a member of the parish council, and is a member of the Knights of Columbus and the John Carroll Society, among other service organizations.